



Marlboro Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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P.O. Box 1057
Bennettsville, SC 29512

General Information

(843) 479-3855
(800) 922-9174
www.marlborelectric.coop

Office Hours

8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Monday–Friday

President/CEO

William L. Fleming

Chairman of the Board

Melvin Carabo

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Raymond Woodle, *District 2*
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Attorney

Doug Jennings

Co-op News Editor

Christy J. Overstreet
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marlborelectric.coop

Mission Statement

The aim of Marlboro Electric Cooperative, Inc. is to make electric energy available to its members at the lowest cost consistent with sound economy and good management.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Co-ops are the fabric of our communities

LAST YEAR, the U.S. Senate—building off similar action by the United Nations General Assembly—designated 2012 as International Year of Cooperatives. As a result, cooperatives everywhere are celebrating our unique not-for-profit, member-owned and -controlled business model.



Marlboro Electric is a cooperative—as a result, you and everyone else who receives electric service from us is a *member*, not merely a customer. Because you and your fellow members are a part of Marlboro Electric Cooperative, our top priority remains providing safe and reliable service and keeping your electric bills affordable. Local control also means we're in the business of improving the quality of life in the communities we serve, from helping schools to advice on how you can make your home or business more energy efficient.

Electric co-ops are just one type of cooperative operating in America. Dairy cooperatives produce nearly 90 percent of our nation's milk. Credit unions? They're cooperatives, too, with more than 8,000 across the country serving 91 million consumers. You can

also find housing, hardware, and even funeral co-ops throughout the U.S.

Some agricultural marketing cooperatives have become household names: Sunkist, Ocean Spray, and Blue Diamond Almonds for example.

Together, all of us are a key part of our local economy. We provide good jobs to folks who live right here—your neighbors and friends. We deliver goods and services that keep our communities humming. As you see on page 5, we're happy to lend a hand when we're able, and we enjoy being involved with schools and community organizations.

When possible, Marlboro Electric's Board of Trustees returns any excess profits to you in the form of capital credits. Be sure to check out pages 20C-D.

While not a new concept—Benjamin Franklin started the first cooperative, the Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses from Loss by Fire, in 1752 (it still operates today!)—the cooperative form of business continues as an integral part of our lives each day.

Raymond Woodle

Trustee

'Here before we know it'

Mark your calendars now for Marlboro Electric Cooperative's 71st Annual Meeting. The event is scheduled for Saturday, April 21, at the Marlboro County High School.

Co-op observes MLK holiday

Marlboro Electric will be closed on Monday, January 16, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Emergency crews will be on standby.

Read how former co-op trustee survived WWII. See our MEC News EXTRA on pages 20A–D.



Sam McInnis stands tall in his military uniform in 1945.

CONTRIBUTED



A student fits into an oversized tool belt used by co-op employee Terry Terry that is worn to work on power lines.

Co-op educates students

Marlboro Co. Schools sponsor Vehicle Career Day

STUDENTS WERE EXCITED

about the oversized safety gloves, tool belt, and Marlboro Electric's big truck with the bucket that goes "way up high in the sky" on Vehicle Career Day held November 15.

More than 500 third and fourth graders participated in the activity hosted by Bennettsville

Elementary/Middle School which included Wallace Elementary, and McColl Elementary/Middle School hosted the activity for Clio and Blenheim Elementary.

Vehicle Career Day is a career awareness activity for elementary students to gain knowledge of a variety of jobs by providing an opportunity for local



Co-op employee Randy Alford answers questions by students at McColl Elementary about the bucket truck he uses for his job. He explains to students the importance of safety gloves.

professionals to show off the vehicles they use for work and allowing them to talk about their job responsibilities as well as the valuable role education plays in these positions.

Co-op employees Randy Alford and Terry Terry stressed the importance of safety and presented students with insight on what a typical day is like, how the vehicle helps them in their job, the education and training required and character traits required for the job.



CHRISTY OVERSTREET

Other businesses that joined the collaborative effort to motivate students to succeed were the cable company, fire department, public library, funeral directors, and many more.



MEC's 2011 Team Player awards

Congratulations to Marlboro Electric employees Robbie Kirk, left, and Troy Coyner, right, who were presented the 2011 Team Player of the Year award by MEC Board Chairman Melvin Carabo.

Juniors: Apply for Youth Tour by January 31

Marlboro Electric is offering two high school juniors in Marlboro or Dillon counties an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C.

The winners will join about 40 high school juniors from around South Carolina. One lucky student from South Carolina on the Washington Youth Tour will win a \$2,500 college scholarship. Students will visit with their

congressmen, learn about government and electric co-ops, tour historical sites, attend cultural events and more.

All applications submitted by January 31 are reviewed by a panel of judges. Students will be notified of the two representatives chosen by March 31. Applications are available at our office or visit MarlboroElectric.coop. Inquiries: Marketing & Communications Christy Overstreet, (843) 454-2872.



'Everyone stayed scared'

Former co-op trustee, a WWII veteran, comes from a family of heroes



News EXTRA



McInnis served as a sergeant in the weapons company.

CONTRIBUTED

BY CHRISTY OVERSTREET

A FATHER'S WORDS to his 18-year-old son remained the same as it did any other time when Sam P. McInnis or his brothers left home, even to fight a war. "Be a good boy," McInnis' father told him as he left home to fight World War II after being drafted in 1944.

"I was afraid the war would be over before I got there," McInnis says. "I couldn't wait because everyone was gone to the Army to fight the war, and I didn't want to miss out."

In the Army, McInnis served in the 275th Infantry Regiment, 70th Division, as a sergeant in the weapons company. He was sworn in at Fort Bragg, N.C. From there, his military travels led him to Camp Blanding in Florida, Fort Meade in Maryland, Camp Kilmer in New Jersey and on to Scotland, England, France and

Germany. He served his country until he was 21 years old.

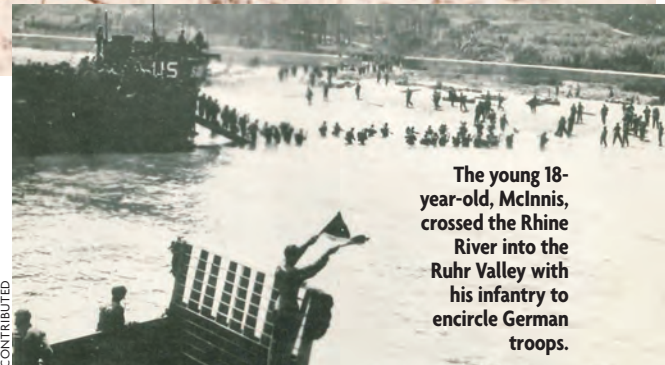
McInnis came from a family of surviving war heroes. His father, E. L. McInnis, served in the 118th Infantry, 30th Division, the so-called "Old Hickory Division." He was shot in the knee in action during World War I in France. More than 20 years later, E.L. McInnis joined the co-op family and served on Marlboro Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees from 1941 to 1947.

Sam McInnis' oldest brother, Edward L. McInnis Jr., also began serving in the Navy at the age of 18 in 1940, a year before the Pearl Harbor attack. He continued to serve throughout WWII. Edward was on a ship hunting German U-boats when his sub went down into icy waters in Canada. Luckily, a fisherman rescued them. According to McInnis, Edward stayed in the hospital for more than five months and came close to losing his legs, but was fortunate enough only to lose his toenails. Later on, a woman wrote a book about the different servicemen rescued, which included his brother. Edward would go on to serve 27 years in the military.

McInnis' youngest brother, Murdoc McInnis, fought in the Korean Conflict on the forefront of the naval offensive against the North Koreans and served as an ambassador on the famous combat vessel Cassin Young.

Bullets swarming

What sounded like a swarm of bees flying past his ears were bullets, as McInnis, the young 18-year-old man



The young 18-year-old, McInnis, crossed the Rhine River into the Ruhr Valley with his infantry to encircle German troops.

CONTRIBUTED

from Little Rock crossed the Rhine River into the Ruhr Valley with his infantry to encircle a large number of German troops. The loud sounds of shells bursting and shooting machine guns damaged McInnis' eardrums, causing permanent hearing problems.

"Everyone stayed scared all the time because you didn't know what was going to happen next," McInnis says. "Soldiers stayed tired all the time because we were always on the move, and it was easy to sleep standing by a tree. When we made it to a rest area, we would discuss and re-live the fight all over again."

During a training session, McInnis became terrified when a "Bouncing Betty" landmine used to teach war tactics in a classroom-style setting began smoking. When triggered, these



McInnis went through many war-destroyed villages and towns in France and Frankfurt, Germany, while he served in WWII. These photos were taken by the infantry photographer.

CONTRIBUTED



CONTRIBUTED



This is one of the first jet planes used by the Nazis in the latter part of WWII in 1945.

CONTRIBUTED

mines launched into the air, detonated and a lethal spray of steel balls and fragments went in all directions. All of the men piled up at the door of this small building in a panic trying to get out, making it so that no one could get out. The landmine was a 'dud,' but it really left him with a lasting impression and a memorable scare.

McInnis remembers how the young German soldiers could speak good English and would yell curse words at the American soldiers, saying they didn't belong there.

"You could hear them talking, but you never knew exactly where they were," McInnis says. "Many soldiers were captured by the Germans."

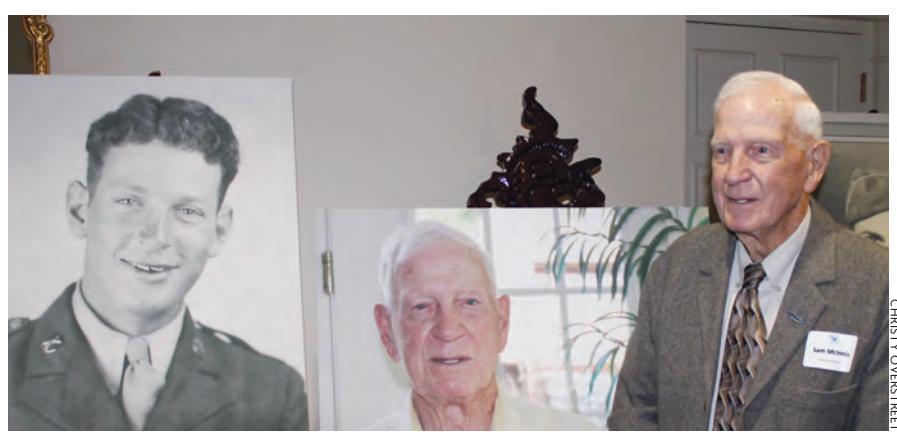


Hitler and many others met at this Nazi meeting place located off the Rhine River. McInnis visited during his tour in WWII.

When McInnis' infantry walked through the snow in below-zero temperatures in the Vash Mountains, many men lost their lives to "trench foot" rather than being wounded in action. Trench foot was a medical condition caused by prolonged exposure of the feet to damp, unsanitary and cold conditions. McInnis said you didn't know you had feet because they were so cold, wet and numb. He kept an extra pair of socks in his pants to keep them warm and dry so when the opportunity



Sam McInnis enjoys cruising in his Model T through the rural roads of Little Rock. McInnis and this Model T are both classics and original.



Red-headed with freckles, 18-year-old Sam McInnis was afraid the war would be over before he got there in 1944. Looking back at this old photo taken more than 67 years ago, McInnis remembers what seems like yesterday.

came to take off his boots and rub his feet, he could change his socks to dry, warm ones.

After President Harry Truman ordered atomic bombs dropped on Japan and the war ended in 1945, generals and civilians wanted soldiers to see the concentration camps and the bodies of the Holocaust victims. McInnis remembers the shocking feeling of seeing deprived, diseased and starved bodies stacked in mounds.

"I couldn't believe what I was seeing!" he says. "It was shocking!"

After fighting in battle in France and Germany, McInnis wasn't able to return to the United States immediately. However, the highlight of his military service came when he was assigned to manage the Hotel Guno and the Carlton Hotel on the French Riviera for a few months where soldiers were brought to rest.

Returning home

Canning tomatoes never seemed as wonderful as it did when McInnis returned home after 18 months of war to find his mother doing just that. It felt better to actually be home with family and friends in real life than reading the mail he periodically received. Mail was so desired by soldiers during WWII because it reminded them of why they were fighting the war, and pleasant memories of home with loved ones could be momentarily recaptured.

With the warm feelings of home, it didn't take McInnis long to get adjusted to the safe and peaceful sounds of Little Rock. He had no regrets from the war, but sometimes has flashbacks or dreams of hand grenades rolling from German vehicles that scared him enough to wake up.

"Fighting in WWII was an experience you're glad

you had, but you don't want to have another," McInnis says. "I made lots of friends, good ol' boys. Some were wounded, some went to different parts of the world and some you didn't know what ever happened to them."

After returning from WWII, he married Ann McColl, and they had two boys and one girl. McInnis farmed and ran the family sawmill in Little Rock. Just as his father had joined the co-op family and served on Marlboro Electric's Board of Trustees. So did McInnis, serving for 37 years, from 1971 to 2008, until he retired.

McInnis occasionally pulls out his photo albums that display memories of World War II but notes that words and emotions are difficult to express when it's about a war in which so many young brave Americans lost their lives.

McInnis loves to have friends and family visit so he can drive them in his 1927 Model T car to his favorite local store. Most of all, he enjoys the quiet, peaceful country life, sitting under a shade tree with his dog, reading his newspaper and taking an occasional nap.

April 11, 2012

WWII Veterans: We Want YOU!

Honor Flight of South Carolina is seeking World War II veterans to join a co-op-sponsored Honor Flight on April 11, 2012. Veterans of the Greatest Generation will be treated to a one-day, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to visit the World War II Memorial in honor of their service. Turn to page 22 for more on the trip and a mail-in application. You may also apply online at SCLiving.coop. Please submit your application by March 1, 2012.





'Check-list' for your name

AS A NON-PROFIT, consumer-owned business, Marlboro Electric Cooperative returns margins in the form of Capital Credits to their members each year.

The names listed are Capital Credit checks returned by the Post Office as undeliverable as addressed, or the check was delivered but never cashed.

If your name is on the list, please contact our customer service by April 15. Please be sure to provide the old mailing address of your account with Marlboro Electric. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (843) 479-3855 or 1 (800) 922-9174.

ACOCK JAMES
PO BOX 574
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

ALFORD LARRY C
RT 3 BOX 69-A
LATTA SC

APAC CAROLINA INC
PO BOX 399
KINSTON NC

B & W MILLING CO
RT 3
MARION SC

BARRINEAU JOHNNY
303 SUNSET DR
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

BAXLEY CHARLOTTE
RT 1 BOX 529
MULLINS SC

BECKER SAND & GRAVEL
1798 HWY 15-401 W
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

**BECKER SAND &
GRAVEL CO**
PO BOX 848-
SCALE HOUSE
CHERAW SC

BETHEA GROCERY
% CAROL E HAYES
RT 1 BOX 140
LATTA SC

BOWEN CLEMSON
2106 NEW BRIDGE RD
McCOLL SC

BRITT WAYNE
RT 3
LATTA SC

BROADWATER LEON
4916 GURNEY ROAD
WALLACE SC

BRODY JAMES C
4042 OLD WIRE RD W
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

BROWN O R III
RT 1 BOX 232
CLIO SC

BROWN O R III
RT 3 BOX 242-H
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

BYRD PHELIX
PO BOX 307
SOCIETY HILL SC

**CARQUEST AUTO
PARTS INC**
PO BOX 216
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

**CARROUSEL AMER
SER STA**
DILLON SC

CHAVIS HOMER
RT 4 BOX 645
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

CHAVIS HOMER
2119 HWY 9 W
WALLACE SC

CHAVIS RICHARD E
RT 4 BOX 152
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

CHAVIS SHELBY JEAN
PO BOX 132
LITTLE ROCK SC

CHILDRESS BAXTER
3169 GARDEN ROAD
WALLACE SC

CHURCH EBENEZER
220 S WRENN STREET
CHERAW SC

CLAY CARLOS
16185-B TOLBERT RD
BAY MINETTE AL

COBLE R B
PO BOX 1553
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

COKER CECIL JR
RT 3 BOX 198
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

**COLEMAN D L & SONS
E M**
RT 1 BOX 65-A
LATTA SC

COLEMAN D LIDE
RT 1
LATTA SC

COLEMAN ROBERT
1528 HICKORY GROVE RD
BENNETTSTVILLE, SC

CONNELLY JAMES B
1090 JOHNNY DODDS
BLVD
MT PLEASANT SC

CONNELLY JIM
% R LINDSAY APT 8-G
LAKESIDE
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

COOK ROBERT
RT 3 BOX 239
LATTA SC

COUSAR H N JR
402 N 16TH AVE
DILLON SC

COVINGTON JACKIE
412 JOHNKIN DRIVE
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

COXE GARY
RT 2
LATTA SC

CREECH MRS HOWARD H
TRLR RT 1 BOX 504
WALLACE SC

CRUMP FLOYD PROD ST
3781 LAUREL BLUFF CIR
HIGH POINT NC

DAVID MADISON
RT 4 BOX 654
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

DEESE NELSON SR
PO BOX 326
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

DOWD J P JR
202 USHER ST
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

DRIGGERS BEATRICE
813 CHERAW ST APT 5-G
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

DRIGGERS BUDDY
PO BOX 1424
CHERAW SC

EMANUEL ALANDER
2661 HICKORY
GROVE ROAD
WALLACE SC

FARMS L AND J
718 LAKESHORE DR
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

FARMS MAGLAND
RT 3 BOX 241-AB
LATTA SC

FLAMINGO LOUNGE
108 PATRICIA ST
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

FLETCHER FRANKIE
RT 4 BOX 114
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

FORD JOHN L
230 LISA ST
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

FORD'S SHELL
PO BOX 1449
DILLON SC

FREE STATE HOG FARM
2183 FREESTATES RD
LATTA SC

GARDNER GARY
2421 SALEM RD
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

GORE JOHN
RT 2 BOX 104 A
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

GRAHAM JOHN
1408 E MAIN ST EXT
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

GRIGGS CABIN
2256 HICKORY
GROVE RD
WALLACE SC

HAGIN DORIS
RT 3 BOX 177 M
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

**HALFWAY HSE
SUNCREST**
725 W MAIN ST
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

HANES HOSIERY INC
PO BOX 1056
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

HARLEY MERCANTILE CO
RT 1 BOX 210-A
HAMER SC

**HEDGEPEETH MRS
ROBERT**
RT 1 BOX 18-A
LITTLE ROCK SC

**HENSEL PHELPS
CONST CO**
694 MUCKERMAN RD
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

HERNDON MICHAEL
RT 1
GIBSON NC

HODGE ERNEST
131 HIGHWAY 79 W
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

HOWELL SONNY
PO BOX 388
BENNETTSTVILLE SC

HUGGINS VERNON J
2761 EBENEZER ROAD
BENNETTSVILLE SC

**JACKSON MRS
JOHNNIE C**
RT 2 BOX 111
BENNETTSVILLE SC

JACKSON TROY
901 MARLBORO RD
BENNETTSVILLE SC

**JOE'S CONVENIENCE
STORE**
RT 2 BOX 47-AA
ROWLAND NC

JOHNSON MARY
RT 1 BOX 413
DILLON SC

JONES DELORIS
RT 4 BOX 734
BENNETTSVILLE SC

JONES GROCERY
RT 3 BOX 34
BENNETTSVILLE SC

KING RICHARD
PO BOX 44
McCOLL SC

LANE GLEN
RT 3 BOX 280-A
LATTA SC

LANEY MRS SALLY MAE
3525 HOBERSHOUN
RD NE
ATLANTA GA

LEE BROS BULK BARN
PO BOX 205
HAMER SC

LEE BROTHERS
PO BOX 205
HAMER SC

LEE J T TRLR 2
PO BOX 38
HAMER SC

LEE K
PO BOX 247
HAMER SC

LEE ROY
RT 1
HAMER SC

LOCK W M
RT 1
HAMER SC

LOUNGE FLAMINGO
% B FREEMAN 7F
MARLBORO CRT
BENNETTSVILLE SC

LUFFMAN JOHNATHON
368 COXE ROAD W.
BENNETTSVILLE SC

LUMMUS THOMAS
RT 3 BOX 201
LATTA SC

MANNING G B
RT 4 BOX 228
BENNETTSVILLE SC

MCCOLLUM MAKUM
RT 1 BOX 52
HAMER SC

MCCORMICK T C
PO BOX 100
BENNETTSVILLE SC

MCCOY JOHNNY LEE
5040 BINGHAM ROAD
LATTA SC

MCDUFFIE CARLISLE
3333 HUSTESS RD
DILLON SC

MCLEAN DAVID E
4516 COUNTY LINE RD
CLIO SC

MEHRA PROMILA
PO BOX 39
CHERAW SC

MINTURN COUNTRY
% DON TRIBBLE
HWY 9
MINTURN SC

**MINTURN RESIDENTIAL
CARE INC**
BOX 23
MINTURN SC

MOORE G LYNN
707 GIBSON HWY
BENNETTSVILLE SC

MOORE G LYNN
PO BOX 105
CHESTER SC

**MUSASHI SOUTH
CAROLINA INC**
2000 TOWN CENTER,
SUITE 1320
SOUTHFIELD, MI

NEWTON BROS
RT 1
BENNETTSVILLE SC

NOLAN CLEVELAND
7697 FREEDOM RD
BRANCHVILLE SC

NORTON GROVER JR
STORE RT 3 BOX 349
BENNETTSVILLE SC

O'KELLEY JOHN
RT 4 BOX 137
BENNETTSVILLE SC

OPEN AIR MARKET NO 2
PO BOX 492
CHERAW SC

PELT ERNESTINE
PO BOX 332
LATTA SC

PENCE L E
700 SC 9377
CHARLESTON SC

PIERCE'S AUTO PARTS
PO BOX 1142
BENNETTSVILLE SC

POLSTON C P
RT 1
BLENHEIM SC

POLSTON WINFORD
2760 HWY 38 SOUTH
BLENHEIM SC

QUICK DAVID BRUCE
PO BOX 254
PATRICK SC

QUICK FRANK
1702 HWY 9 W
BENNETTSVILLE SC

QUICK HOWARD L
612 JAMES DRIVE
CHERAW SC

ROADWAY EXPRESS
BOX 446
ATTN AL J SHUE
KERNERSVILLE NC

ROBERTS MARION
3145 IRBY RD
WALLACE SC

ROGERS KENNETH
RT 1 BOX 178 C
HAMER SC

ROGERS SAM
RT 4 BOX 423
BENNETTSVILLE SC

ROUSE DISTRIBUTORS
PO BOX 105
BENNETTSVILLE SC

ROWND HARRY
RT 1
LATTA SC

SCHAFFER WILLIAM H
4450 TURTLE LANE
LITTLE RIVER SC

SMITH LARRY
PO BOX 202
WALLACE SC

TESLUK JOE TRLR
PO BOX 31
BENNETTSVILLE SC

THOMAS GROCERY
168 WILDER RD W
BENNETTSVILLE SC

TUCKER CH
627 HWY 15 401 E
BENNETTSVILLE SC

TURNAGE MILDRED J
STORE RT 4 BOX 97
BENNETTSVILLE SC

WEAVER MRS MAXIE
RT 3 BOX 345
BENNETTSVILLE SC

WILLIAMS DANNY
840 15401 BYPASS W
BENNETTSVILLE SC

WILLIAMS WALTER
PO BOX 526
LITTLE ROCK SC

WILSON GEORGE
153 PINESTRAW RD
BENNETTSVILLE SC

WRIGHT CHARLES
RT 1 BOX 560
BENNETTSVILLE SC

Co-op returns \$185,000 to members

Members received more than \$185,000 in capital credits mailed in early December. The cooperative's Board of Trustees approved the retirement of capital credits from the years 1985, 1986 and 2010.

Capital credits are a unique benefit of the cooperative form of business. Capital credits are the difference between your co-op's operating costs and revenues. Because Marlboro

Electric is a non-profit cooperative, any revenues left over after expenses are returned to member-owners. Capital credits are assigned to members based on the amount of electricity purchased.

Cooperative President and CEO Bill Fleming said, "The Board is paying capital credits for a more recent year and two earlier years. All members, new and old, see the benefits of being a member of Marlboro Electric Cooperative."